

Agenda

Item #15

Jonathan Wayne
Executive Director
Commission on Governmental Ethics
And Election Practices
135 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Mr. Wayne and Members of the Commission,

Thank you for your information regarding the petition from Roy Lenardson concerning the Katahdin Institute. We appreciate that there is much energy around the recent campaign cycle and we look forward to clarification as to the parameters of the appropriate activities for engaged organizations. The TABOR referendum invited a very different type of public dialogue and we were glad to be exposed to new organizations like the Maine Heritage Policy Center.

The Katahdin Institute has been pleased to play a different role in engaging the public by expanding debate around the role of government in the state of Maine and in the nation. Our activities, based on the themes of Community, Fairness and Investing in the Future (developed at a conference in 2004), have served as an alternative way to evaluate such areas as taxation, community development, energy conservation and the environment, the safety of our families and the shrinking middle class. Our activities include public speaking, writing columns, a web site, workshops and conferences. One of these diverse activities, the workshop series, has been a great opportunity to work with specific constituent groups on finding new ways to frame a controversial issue.

This is where there may be some confusion around the role of our work. It is in this context that I would like to address Mr. Lenardson's two primary concerns.

- A. The Tides Foundation Grant noted by Mr. Lenardson was awarded based on our ability to engage the public in the broader context of the debate around tax and spending issues. Note the "Deliverables" indicated (taken from page three of submitted grant included as Attachment "The Community Leadership Network"):

Deliverables:

- *Fifteen workshops, with strategic focus on five counties (goal of 700 participants).*
- *Ten trainings for organizational leaders of Blueprint partner organizations.*
- *A published collection of message frames developed at these workshops that will advance our long-term goal of shifting the debate around fair taxation, sustainable budgets, and essential state services. These frames can be used by organizations and community leaders for their own communications and outreach initiatives.*
- *A core of 60 leaders strategically identified for their ability to communicate to a broad cross-section of Mainers.*
- *Opinion pieces and letters to the editor in all major media markets and in local weeklies where the programs are held.*

B. The Katahdin Institute Resource Guide: Included you will find the entire resource book utilized by The Katahdin Institute, in addition to resource guides that we have used in the past. This is included because it indicates our methodology. We selected TABOR as a model case, because the issue of spending caps goes to the heart of all political debate – what it should be empowered to do and how it should be paid for.

Below is an excerpt from the Table of Contents, in order to provide context for your evaluation.

Beyond Communication:

Changing the Rules of the Political Debate

Community, Fairness, Investing in the Future

Part One: Introduction to Framing and Worldview

A. Worldview: Building a Long Term Political Strategy

B. Framing the Argument

C. Examples:

1. Education (page 8)
2. Environment (page 9)
3. Marriage (page 10)
4. Reproductive Rights (page 11)
5. Healthcare (page 12)
6. Taxes (page 13)

Part Two: TABOR: The New Threat to Maine's Future (page 15)

A. What is TABOR

B. Frequently Asked Questions

C. Writing an Editorial on TABOR

D. Writing Letters to the Editor

Part Three: Appendix

A. Neil Rolde Speech on December 3, 2005

B. Outcomes of December 11, 2004 Event

Thank you for your assistance in this. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at klein@gwi.net or cell 712-0508. You may also want to reference our web site at www.katahdininstitute.org.

Best wishes,

Anna Marie Klein
Executive Director

THE KATAHDIN INSTITUTE
COMMUNITY * FAIRNESS * INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

TABOR: The New Threat to Maine's Future

The Community Leadership Network
An Innovative Leadership Development Project
Engaging Community Leaders to Promote Sensible Alternatives

"My goal is to cut government in half in twenty-five years to get it down to the size where we can drown it in a bathtub." Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform

"I look forward with great anticipation to the potential transformation that will happen in Maine in 2006 . . . It is our time to get assertive." Bill Becker, Executive Director of the Maine Heritage Policy Center

The Challenge:

After decades of leadership in reforming education, campaign finance, healthcare and environmental regulations, Maine has become the target of a national strategy to shrink government and eliminate the vital services that it provides.

The most recent attack was a California Prop 13-style property tax cap, which voters rejected in a 2004 ballot initiative. The newest threat takes the form of a state and local spending cap known as TABOR (The Taxpayers Bill of Rights). TABOR was developed by radical neoconservative leaders like Grover Norquist, and first implemented in Colorado thirteen years ago. TABOR restricts all government growth by placing a cap on spending increases equal to the rate of population growth plus inflation. A similar formula was adopted in Colorado and severely handicapped state and local government's ability to sustain essential services. The effects in Colorado were so devastating that Colorado's Republican Governor Bill Owens – one of its original proponents - recently led a successful effort to suspend TABOR¹. A similar version of the Colorado law will appear on the November ballot in Maine and at least 10 other states, risking major cuts in state and local spending for children and families, education, the environment, infrastructure and other vital areas.

Maine citizens take the responsibilities of their government very seriously. Their overwhelming rejection of the property tax cap (67.2% to 37.3%) in 2004 was both a repudiation of radical tax cuts and a vote for the essential services that would have been eliminated. While we won that fight, we failed to capitalize on the victory in order to pass sensible tax reforms in this recent Legislative session. A major factor in our inability to develop and implement tax reform is that at this time the terms of the debate are defined by a few predominantly conservative sources that espouse limited government, hyper-individualism and undermining the social safety net. Citizens need to understand this newly emerging radical ideology in Maine and be schooled in alternative language, addressing current issues in ways that are reflective of Maine's traditional values. The TABOR referendum will force a welcome debate about the role of government, spending priorities, shared responsibilities and the relationship between our elected officials and our communities. Defeating TABOR will require building vibrant, integrated community networks with the staying power to affect state and local tax reforms in years to come. New leadership and a better educated public can take this as an opportunity

¹ "Owens goes toe-to-toe with TABOR's author," Chris Frates, (Denver Post Staff Writer), October 15, 2005, The Denver Post

to build the foundation for emerging leadership and the innovative policy decisions for which Maine is so well known.

The Project: *The Community Leadership Network*

The Katahdin Institute proposes to conduct a civic leadership development and community engagement project in collaboration with our partners the Maine Center for Economic Policy (MECEP) and the Maine People's Resource Center/Maine People's Alliance (MPRC/MPA) who are included in this proposal. As a continuation of the Katahdin Institute's Maine Prosperity Initiative, this project will consist of interactive workshops supported by leadership training and publications. As a compliment to the other civic engagement work currently being implemented, these programs will teach participants to analyze the political influences in the state, explore the impact of spending caps in Maine, and develop a new language to talk about spending caps, the role of government and equitable means to pay for essential services. This will create the foundation for building networks of emerging leaders, engaging the public and investing in long-term change.

This project is also an important aspect of the Maine Blueprint Project, which is a powerful strategy and program for progressive policy change and democracy in Maine. A long-term, non-partisan strategy for community based organizations and leadership, Blueprint provides grants and technical assistance to support effective, collaborative action for public policies that mean a better future for Mainers.

The integration of the *Community Leadership Network* into Maine Blueprint will provide an unprecedented opportunity for organizations to collaborate, using new tools to build a political environment that makes progressive social change possible. By intention, our efforts tie in with the civic engagement work currently underway in five of the six counties that Maine Blueprint has selected as priorities. We will educate leaders and opinion makers in those counties, including elected officials, business owners, organizational leaders, advocates and activists, building consensus and collaboration between these groups and a greater understanding of the political process. We will also build upon our membership in Community Voices Against TABOR, an 80 member C(3) coalition created to educate constituents around the effects of TABOR. Our target is to reach out to forty core member organizations. Our initial geographic focus will be in the communities located in five counties: York, Cumberland, Androscoggin, Penobscot and Kennebec.

Our unique curriculum is based on our experience developing new frameworks in which to discuss controversial issues and make them useful to our partners. This program builds upon our original success at a Post-Election Summit held by The Katahdin Institute in 2004 where more than 150 participants from 60 organizations defined the themes of a progressive worldview as ***Community, Fairness and Investing in the Future***. We have since held eight major programs with hundreds of organizational leaders, elected officials, business leaders and members of the public to use these basic themes to reframe the issues that were and continue to be so important to these participants.

While each of the organizations participating in this project will also collaborate with the political action committee that will oppose TABOR, we see this project as being a distinct, but essential component of the overall effort to win in November and to continue this important work after the election. The experience in Maine with referenda campaigns is that early money is devoted to purchasing media time and late money is invested in building a field organization. There is virtually

no investment in building community networks for lasting social change once the election is over. With the stakes so high in November, our organizations believe that we need to invest resources early in developing the community-based organizing infrastructure necessary to defeat TABOR. Equally important, we recognize that if we want to win long term on this issue that we need to sustain those networks in order to capitalize on our victory to enact meaningful tax reform in the 2007 legislative session and beyond.

Our goals:

- Strengthen communities by broadening the political debate and giving participants tools to engage, speak and lead public discussion on the issues of spending caps, the essential role of government and sensible tax reform proposals.
- Cultivate new leadership on a local level, focusing on underrepresented populations and women whose presence has been shrinking on a state and local level.
- Hold at least two programs in five counties of the state of Maine to engage a larger and more representative population in the political debate.
- Train key organizations to build consensus and collaboration between organizations resulting in the use of shared resources and compelling language to defeat TABOR and to advocate the role of government that resonates with the public.
- Collaborate with 60 organizations that are participating in the Maine Blueprint Project with a combined membership of 265,000 to build strong long-term community networks.
- Mobilize this organizing capacity in order to educate the members of partner organizations, generate local media events, letters to the editor and opinion pieces as well as targeted voter education.

Deliverables:

- Fifteen workshops, with strategic focus on five counties (goal of 700 participants).
- Ten trainings for organizational leaders of Blueprint partner organizations².
- A published collection of message frames developed at these workshops that will advance our long-term goal of shifting the debate around fair taxation, sustainable budgets, and essential state services. These frames can be used by organizations and community leaders for their own communications and outreach initiatives.
- A core of 60 leaders strategically identified for their ability to communicate to a broad cross-section of Mainers.
- Opinion pieces and letters to the editor in all major media markets and in local weeklies where the programs are held.

Request:

The Katahdin Institute is requesting a \$10,000 seed grant to initiate *The Community Leadership Network*. Seed grant funds will be shared with our organizational partners. All aspects of *The Community Leadership Network* will be conducted within strict accordance of IRS 501 (c)(3) permissible activities.

² Maine Education Association, Family Planning Association of Maine, Maine AFL-CIO, Maine Council of Senior Citizens/ARA, Maine People's Alliance, Maine Women's Lobby, National Association of Social Workers – PACE, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, Maine Environmental Health Strategy Center, and Sierra Club Maine Chapter



STATE OF MAINE
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS
AND ELECTION PRACTICES
135 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0135

January 16, 2007

Anna Marie Klein
The Katahdin Institute
P.O. Box 7606
Portland, ME 04112

Dear Ms. Klein:

This to notify you that the Ethics Commission received an inquiry from Roy Lenardson concerning The Katahdin Institute. He has inquired whether the organization was required to file a financial report with the Ethics Commission under 21-A M.R.S.A. §1056-B disclosing money raised or spent to oppose the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) initiative. This reporting requirement is for organizations other than political action committees which raise or spend more than \$1,500 for the purpose of promoting or opposing a ballot question.

Mr. Lenardson has submitted:

- A description from the Tides Foundation website indicating that the foundation made a \$10,000 grant to Community Leadership Network with The Katahdin Institute to oppose TABOR;
- A 2005/2006 resource guide published by The Katahdin Institute that includes a sample editorial against TABOR and frequently asked questions regarding TABOR; and
- A notice on the website of the Maine Women's Fund indicating that The Katahdin Institute offered community leadership training about how to talk about TABOR.

Request for Response

I am scheduling this matter for the Commission's meeting in March, because the agenda for the February meeting is already quite long. The date for the March meeting has not been finalized. **Please submit a written response to the request no later than Wednesday, February 7th.** If you conclude that The Katahdin Institute was required to file a §1056-B report, kindly do so. The reporting form can be found in the forms section of www.maine.gov/ethics.

OFFICE LOCATED AT: 242 STATE STREET, AUGUSTA, MAINE
WEBSITE: WWW.MAINE.GOV/ETHICS

§1056-B Reporting Requirement

In 2000, the Maine Legislature created a new reporting requirement for organizations other than political action committees which raise or spend money on ballot questions. Under this requirement:

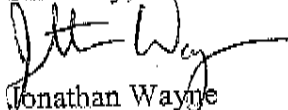
Any person not defined as a political committee who solicits and receives contributions or makes expenditures, other than by contribution to a political action committee, aggregating in excess of \$1,500 for the purpose of initiating, promoting, defeating or influencing in any way a ballot question must file a report with the Commission. In the case of a municipal election, a copy of the same information must be filed with the clerk of that municipality.

(21-A M.R.S.A. §1056-B) A number of organizations filed §1056-B reports with respect to their TABOR activities. Those reports can be found at:
<http://www.state.me.us/ethics/disclosure/index.htm>.

Last month, the Ethics Commission determined that the Maine Heritage Policy Center was required to file a §1056-B report if it raised or spent more than \$1,500 to promote or influence in any way the TABOR initiative. In response to a request for guidance, the Commission staff developed the attached December 27, 2006 advisory memo. Although it has not been specifically approved by the Commission members, you may wish to consider it in determining whether The Katahdin Institute was required to file a report.

Please telephone me at 287-4179 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Wayne
Executive Director

cc: Roy Lenardson

Title 21-A, §1056-B, Reports of contributions and expenditures by persons

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we do require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 122nd Legislature, and is current through December 31, 2006, but is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office CANNOT perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

§1056-B. Reports of contributions and expenditures by persons

Any person not defined as a political committee who solicits and receives contributions or makes expenditures, other than by contribution to a political action committee, aggregating in excess of \$1,500 for the purpose of initiating, promoting, defeating or influencing in any way a ballot question must file a report with the commission. In the case of a municipal election, a copy of the same information must be filed with the clerk of that municipality. [1999, c. 729, §8 (new).]

1. Filing requirements. A report required by this section must be filed with the commission according to a reporting schedule that the commission shall establish that takes into consideration existing campaign finance reporting schedule requirements in section 1059. [1999, c. 729, §8 (new).]

2. Content. A report must contain an itemized account of each contribution received and expenditure made aggregating in excess of \$100 in any election; the date of each contribution; the date and purpose of each expenditure; and the name of each contributor, payee or creditor. Total contributions or expenditures of less than \$500 in any election need not be itemized. The report must state whether the purpose for receiving contributions and making expenditures is in support of or in opposition to the ballot question. [1999, c. 729, §8 (new).]

3. Forms. A report required by this section must be on a form prescribed and prepared by the commission. A person filing this report may use additional pages if necessary, but the pages must be the same size as the pages of the form. [1999, c. 729, §8 (new).]

PL 1999, Ch. 729, §8 (NEW).



STATE OF MAINE
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS
AND ELECTION PRACTICES
135 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0135

To: Interested Persons
From: Jonathan Wayne, Executive Director
Date: December 27, 2006
Re: Advice from Commission Staff on §1056-B Reporting

In response to a request, the Ethics Commission staff is offering the advice below regarding which financial activities are covered by 21-A M.R.S.A. §1056-B. This advice is offered provisionally until more permanent guidance can be determined through formal rulemaking or, possibly, a statutory amendment to §1056-B. If you believe you may need to file an amended §1056-B report as a result of this advice, please feel free to telephone Martha Demeritt at 287-4179. Please keep in mind that the advice has been drafted by the Commission staff, and has not been specifically approved by the Commission members.

Contributions Covered by §1056-B

Section 1056-B covers "contributions ... made for the purpose of initiating, promoting, defeating, or influencing in any way a ballot question" We propose that this would include the following:

- funds which the contributor specified were given in connection with a ballot question (i.e., for the purpose of promoting or opposing a ballot question);
- funds provided in response to a solicitation which would lead the contributor to believe that the funds would be used specifically for the purpose of promoting or opposing a ballot question; and
- funds which can reasonably be determined to have been provided by the contributor for the purpose of promoting or opposing a ballot question when viewed in the context of the contribution and the recipient's activities regarding a ballot question.

Funds provided in response to a solicitation which would lead the contributor to believe that the funds would be for an organization's general activities would not be covered by Section 1056-B.

Expenditures Covered by §1056-B

Section 1056-B covers "expenditures made for the purpose of initiating, promoting, defeating, or influencing in any way a ballot question" We propose that this would include the following:

- expenditures for communications to voters for the purpose of promoting or opposing a ballot question, including advertising on television, radio, and print media; literature that is mailed or distributed by hand to voters; automated telephone calls and scripted calls from live callers; signs, bumper stickers, and other forms of outdoor advertising;
- staff time promoting or opposing the ballot question at public or press events;
- staff time canvassing (conducting door-to-door visits to) voters;
- travel expenses paid to employees in connection with appearances at public or press events;
- staff time preparing presentations, testimony or press releases to promote or oppose the ballot question;
- research or technical analysis including the writing of reports, where the sponsoring organization knows or reasonably should know that the research will be used to promote or oppose the ballot question; and
- expenditures to distribute research or technical analysis of a ballot question for the purpose of encouraging voters to vote yes, or no, on the question.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive and is similar to the types of expenditures reported by political action committees to promote or defeat a ballot question.

Expenditures Not Covered by §1056-B

We propose that expenditures made merely to educate voters or others in a neutral way about a ballot question are not covered by §1056-B:

- Hosting a meeting at which advocates or members of the public are invited to present their views on the ballot question, provided that the sponsors of the event make reasonable efforts to ensure that the forum is balanced.

In 2006, for example, this would include the many community organizations (rotary clubs, public libraries, church groups) that hosted TABOR-related debates.

- News stories, commentary, or editorials concerning a ballot question distributed through the facilities of a broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, or other periodical publication, unless the facilities are owned or controlled by persons otherwise engaged in other advocacy activities to promote or oppose the ballot question.
- Research or analysis of a ballot question which is not conducted for the purpose of initiating, promoting, or defeating the ballot question.

This could include research that is conducted in a neutral fashion and is intended to be communicated to opinion leaders, in academic settings, or to the public at large. When statewide ballot questions are pending, it is not unusual for individuals with specialized skills (*e.g.*, academics, attorneys, educational institutions, pollsters) to be hired to undertake research or analysis concerning the ballot question. If these activities are neutral and not made for the purpose of promoting or defeating the question, they would not be covered by §1056-B.

Tides Foundation | Voter Action Fund 2006

A>A

TIDES FOUNDATION

Voter Action Fund 2006

First Round Grantees Announced

Tides' Voter Action Fund was first launched in 2004, when the Fund made more than 100 grants totaling over \$4 million. In 2006, the Voter Action Fund continues to invest in key organizations working to increase and strengthen civic participation in communities across the United States.

The first round of 2006 grants supports twelve grantees working on the long-term goals of election protection and increasing the mobilization capacity of the field, and the more immediate opportunities and imperatives of the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, protecting the Katrina vote, engaging immigrant communities, and supporting ballot initiatives in key states. All of these organizations place race, ethnicity, and class at the heart of their work, and prioritize the building of coalitions across issues, geographies and communities.

A second round of grantmaking is planned for the coming months. Through participating in the 2006 Voter Action Fund, you can support grassroots organizations that get out the vote every year – not just during presidential campaigns.

Election Protection

Within the broad goal of protecting and expanding the right to vote for all citizens, two issues emerge as priorities for 2006: a) protecting the "Katrina Vote" by ensuring that residents displaced by the hurricane are not disenfranchised; and b) ensuring the upcoming re-authorization of the Voting Rights Act to preserve vital protections against voter discrimination.



Name	Organization Description	Grant
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF)	LDF is combining public education and advocacy to ensure reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) and to inspire public dialogue on the current and potential threats to voting rights. LDF's "Protect the Katrina Vote" initiative includes producing step-by-step "how to vote" publications, opening Voter Empowerment Centers in Houston, Atlanta and Baton Rouge, and on-the-ground organizing to get absentee ballots and information to displaced voters.	\$50,000
The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law	The 2006 National Campaign for Fair Elections includes a national voter protection hotline, deployment of mobile field attorneys, and Legal Command Centers to handle major election issues across the country. The Campaign also includes legal challenges to bills requiring photo IDs to vote; advocacy to promote the Count Every Vote Act, and Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Act; and "Democracy Schools" to educate activists on issues related to election reform.	\$25,000
The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR)	Leading "Renew the Voting Rights Act", a grassroots education campaign about the need for strong and vigorous voting rights protections. LCCR has developed multi-media resources (at www.renewthevra.org) highlighting the impact of the VRA and of its key provisions which protect the right of minorities to elect candidates of choice, ensure language access to voting materials, and ensure federal election observers during elections.	\$25,000

Building the Mobilization Capacity of the Field – Reaching Immigrant Voters

2004 gave us a glimpse of what can happen when the nonprofit sector applies more energy and innovation to the work of voter engagement. The cumulative impact of the 2004 efforts was that turnout in historically under-represented communities increased by over 5 million, dramatically changing the face of the electorate. The 2006 elections are the next opportunity to build on this momentum. As in 2004, mobilizing immigrant voters is an imperative for progressive movement, but all the more important given the recent surge of immigrant rights activism.

Name	Organization Description	Grant
The Center For Community Change (CCC)	The Community Voting Project has trained hundreds of grassroots groups to mobilize new and infrequent voters in low-income and minority communities across the country. CCC is now leading formation of the "We Are America Alliance", which coordinated Labor Day immigration reform mobilizations, and which, in July, will launch the "Democracy Summer" initiative with goals of a) producing a million new voters and citizens by Election Day, b) opposing the HR 4437 Enforcement First bill, and c) enacting real comprehensive immigration reform.	\$50,000
Mobilize the Immigrant Vote (MIV)	MIV is a collaborative of six immigrant rights and anti-poverty networks and coalitions that has led California voter mobilization campaigns since 2004. MIV's 2006 Campaign will conduct electoral trainings and media coaching for community leaders across the state, including the Central Valley; develop and distribute language-appropriate voter information materials; and mobilize 150 grassroots organizations rooted in immigrant communities, many of which have never been involved in voter mobilization or political action.	\$50,000
Democracy South	Democracy South is developing software and optical scanning equipment that will enable its partner voter mobilization organizations to automate the updating of voter records with canvassing results. In 2004 huge quantities of critical voter data were lost because the updating process for information gathered in the field depended on hand-held, voter-by-voter bar code scanning. This innovation will insure the capture of accurate mission critical voter data, the production of valuable databases, and substantial efficiencies and costs savings.	\$25,000
Wellstone Action Fund provides trainings that strengthen the efforts of individuals and organizations in the non-profit arena		

Tides Foundation | Voter Action Fund 2006

Wellstone Action Fund	to educate, engage, and mobilize voters. In three years, Wellstone Action has trained over 9,300 citizen activists in 29 states in political organizing skills. This year Wellstone Action will be running a new national series of trainings in both Spanish and English for people involved in the burgeoning immigrant rights movement.	\$5,000
Women's Voices, Women Vote Action Fund (WVWV)	WWVW has helped increase the turnout of unmarried women - who are both the single most progressive constituency in the U.S. and the least likely to vote - from 19% in 2000 to 22.4% percent in 2004. WVWV has developed lists of registered and unregistered unmarried women in 16 states, conducted research on what motivates women to vote or abstain from voting, and shared its information and research with a broad range of organizations. Its priorities in 2006 include expanding voter lists, focusing research on unmarried Latinas and unmarried women who vote only in Presidential elections (drop off voters); developing a strategic communications plan; and increasing the distribution of its resources and data.	\$50,000

Supporting Key Ballot Initiatives

Ballot initiatives motivate voters and help to make voting directly relevant and meaningful. In 2006 minimum wage initiatives will be decided in nine states, but many of those states will also be seeing TABOR (taxpayer bill of rights) initiatives, and/or other regressive initiatives (anti-gay marriage, limitations on abortion rights and restrictions on services to immigrants). Tides grantees are progressive coalitions organizing around these ballot initiatives in four states:

Name	Organization Description	Grant
The Colorado Progressive Coalition (CPC)	CPC is a statewide, multi-issue, and multiracial coalition of 5,000 community members and 41 civil rights, labor, faith, immigrant, and community organizations representing 250,000 members. In 2006 CPC is leading opposition to major anti-immigrant, anti-marriage equality, and anti-reproductive justice initiatives on its November ballot while, at the same time, promoting a minimum wage initiative and supporting mobilization in support of immigrant rights. Pro-Vote's 40 members include labor, church, environmental, and civil rights groups, which together promote progressive policies, conduct grassroots organizing and run a state-of-the-art voter registration and mobilization program. This year, Pro-Vote, has placed a state minimum wage hike (from \$5.15 to \$6.50) on the November ballot, which, according to April polls, is supported by nearly 80% of likely voters. Pro-Vote's mobilization efforts will target new and infrequent African American voters and their campaign has the potential both to give working Missourians a raise and to build the long-term power of progressives in this influential state.	\$25,000
Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition (Pro-Vote)	This coalition is mobilizing diverse constituents around the shared commitment to raising the minimum wage to \$6.75 per hour. Arizona's 2006 ballot includes both progressive issues and a "Protect Marriage Initiative" that would also ban domestic partner benefits. The Minimum Wage Initiative has enormous potential to bring out the vote: Arizona currently has the lowest minimum wage on the West Coast and recent polling found 81% voters in favor of the increase. The Coalition has the potential not only of a victory for low-income working families but also to build alliances for future progressive activism in this key electoral state.	\$25,000
The Arizona Minimum Wage Coalition	This network is working with Community Voices Against TABOR, an 80 member coalition created to educate constituents about, and to oppose, the Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR) on the ballot for November 2006. Rather than solely focusing on a rearguard action to defeat TABOR, the Community Leadership Network is working with community leaders to provide them the tools, and training to analyze the political influences in the state, and develop a new language to talk about the impact of spending caps, the role of government and equitable means to pay for essential services.	\$10,000

© 1998-2006 Tides. All rights reserved. Questions or comments: webweaver@tides.org
[Tides Network](#) | [Tides Center](#) | [Tides Shared Spaces](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Beyond Communication:
Changing the Rules of the Political Debate

Community
Fairness
Investing In the Future

The Katahdin Institute
2005/2006 Resource Guide

THE KATAHDIN INSTITUTE

The Katahdin Institute is a non-partisan and non-profit think tank devoted to establishing a progressive agenda based on our American history of community, social investment, mutual responsibility and global leadership. This is a long term commitment and requires collaboration across disciplines, issues, experiences and interests.

OUR VISION:

The Katahdin Institute was formed on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in 2001 by a broad base of community leaders who shared a belief that the American promise was being lost in the politics of extreme individualism and absolute reliance on market driven solutions.

Our inspiration comes from the leadership of one of America's greatest presidents and his ability to unify the nation in addressing our most challenging social problems. Franklin Delano Roosevelt articulated our most admirable core values guaranteeing each citizen four basic freedoms: freedom from fear, freedom from want, freedom of speech and freedom of religion. In addition, he recognized that democracy could not truly exist unless each citizen was guaranteed essential economic security.

Despite the unprecedented investment in spreading anti-government rhetoric, America has made great progress in achieving this vision. While optimistic about the future of the American people, the Katahdin Institute believes that this rhetoric has gone unanswered for too long. Therefore, we are laying the groundwork for long-term solutions to our nations greatest challenges.

OUR GOALS:

It is the goal of the Katahdin Institute to articulate an alternative value system – one that is consistent with our American history of community, social investment, mutual responsibility and global leadership.

We recognize that deliberation is crucial to the legitimacy of any democracy. At this time in America, the political debate is so dominated by anti-government ideology that we no longer have free and open debate about how government can be used to best serve the people.

The Katahdin Institute is pleased to work with a diverse array of advocates, activists, academics and policy analysts to address the greatest social problems of our times through:

- Strategic Policy Development
- Broad-based Collaboration
- Citizen Empowerment and Education
- Regular Publication

It is possible to achieve a democracy that fulfills its promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We look forward to a long term collaborative effort to make this happen.

THE KATAHDIN INSTITUTE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HONORARY CHAIR
SENATOR BILL BRADLEY

CHAIRMAN
NEIL ROLDE

VICE CHAIR
CAROL KONTOS

TREASURER
EDWARD P. LEOG

SECRETARY
MARY ANNE GLEASON

JOHN CARR
MICHAEL FIORI
JOSEPH HANSLIP
WILLIAM HARWOOD
MARK LAWRENCE
MARJORIE PHYFE
JOHN RAUH
SAM SPENCER
JIM WILFONG

ADVISORY COUNCIL
RICHARD BARRINGER
CHELLIE PINGREE
MARK SCHMIDT

Beyond Communication: Changing the Rules of the Political Debate

Community Fairness Investing in the Future

Part One Introduction to Framing and Worldview

- A. Worldview: Building a Long Term Political Strategy
- B. Framing the Argument
- C. Examples:
 - 1. Education (page 8)
 - 2. Environment (page 9)
 - 3. Marriage (page 10)
 - 4. Reproductive Rights (page 11)
 - 5. Healthcare (page 12)
 - 6. Taxes (page 13)

Part Two TABOR: The New Threat to Maine's Future (page 15)

- A. What is TABOR?
- B. Frequently Asked Questions
- C. Writing an Editorial on TABOR
- D. Writing Letters to the Editor on TABOR

Part Three Appendix

- A. Neil Rinde Speech on December 3, 2005
- B. Outcomes of December 11, 2004 Event

For more information about worldview, framing or the Karashin Institute,
please contact us at:

The Karashin Institute
Post Office Box 7606, 15 Monument Square
Portland, Maine 04112
207/773-0980 klein@kwi.net

THE KARASHIN INSTITUTE

Friends,

In the last three decades, there has been a consistent and strategic shift in the way that Americans think about their government, and how they behave towards their government, and use government as a tool for social change.

In the early 1970's, a small group of neo-conservatives made a strategic investment in developing new ideas about American government. They recognized that big ideas were valuable and strategically invested billions in developing them and the means to implement them on a grand scale. This investment included leadership training, research, policy development, lobbying, infrastructure, and media. They have taught their leaders to speak consistently and use short term electoral tactics to change the long term political landscape. Perhaps most important, they have used a few simple themes — those of neo-government, hyper-individualism and market fundamentalism — to define all of their major initiatives.

One such initiative is a referendum that has the potential to destroy Maine's social and physical infrastructure. It will appear on the ballot in at least ten states and is part of a national strategy to diminish state government in coordination with federal efforts to do the same. This is the so-called Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR), a spending cap that was passed as a constitutional amendment in Colorado in 1993. It has been so devastating that the Governor who championed the idea as its passage worked to have it overturned in a successful vote this year. Even so, neo-conservatives are committed to implementing this policy in other states because it challenges the very role of government and builds power for their limited ideology. It is one of those strategic big ideas that could strike a blow to the traditional role of government.

As this infrastructure was developing, progressives were investing their resources very differently. Foundations with a strict commitment to non-partisanship invested in building ideas to address diverse social problems, but their investments stopped there. There were no strategic investments in the progressive infrastructure. This resulted in a fragmented political effort. Driven by the requirements of the funding community, progressives created programs instead of a long term plan. Instead of a shared vision for America, progressives' measured their success in data. Instead of spreading a vision of America that can impact policy in the long term, the resources were allocated according to short term initiatives.

This has resulted in a major shift in the role of government away from the ideals of the New Deal and the War on Poverty to broad based privatization and lack of government accountability. Fortunately, we are at a time of great opportunity. Progressives are beginning to recognize the power of big ideas. Organizations are starting to collaborate with a commitment to change the language of the political environment, framing our greatest social problems in new ways. Opening the debate allows for new solutions that reflect the Progressive commitment to social investment, mutual responsibility and global leadership.

The Karashin Institute has been fortunate to collaborate with our partners and colleagues to develop this framework in Maine, creating a model that can be replicated nationwide. This work began with a Post-Question Summit in 2004 that crystallized the core themes of a progressive ideology as *Community, Fairness and Investing in the Future*. Since that time, we have worked with a broad base of organizations to develop a language that ties their respective issues to a larger progressive worldview, redefining the frontier that apply to their respective issues in such areas as economic development, the environment, women's health and diplomacy.

The workshop held on December 3, 2005 built on these endeavors by working with a new cross section of participants including elected officials, activists and organizational leaders. We used two issues that are important to Maine for models in a power analysis and a framing exercise. We chose Dirigo Health—the controversial state health insurance initiative—to create a power analysis, to look at the many influences on policy in the state where there are powerful interests on both sides of the issue. Society's role in ensuring public health has been truly central for most of American history. It was during Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal that society took on the shared responsibility of the health and well being of all. The debate about Dirigo Health is an extension of that debate.

For our framing exercise, we focused on TABOR, the spending cap referendum that will be on the ballot in 2006. We selected it because spending caps go to the heart of the debate about the role of government in our lives. We also recognized its essential importance in a debate that is going on around the country. We hope that our participants will come to know more about TABOR and be able to speak about it in ways that expand the debate, challenge our friends and neighbors, and build upon a vision for America based on three core American values: *Community, Fairness, Investing in the Future*.

We would like to thank all of our participants in making this possible and inviting continued input. Just as the neo-conservatives invested in ideas over a thirty-year period, we are at the beginning of a process.

Anne Marie Klein
Executive Director

**Part II. TABOR: The New Threat to Maine's Future
Framing One of the Most Important Issues of Our Time**

- 1. What is TABOR?**
- 2. Progressive Frame**
- 3. Writing an Editorial About TABOR**
- 4. Writing Letters to the Editor on TABOR**

TABOR: Frequently Asked Questions:

Colorado's economy is stronger than ever, state spending is down and the population is growing—why wouldn't we want the same for Maine?

We would all love to have these things in Maine. However, TABOR was not the reason these things happened in Colorado and it would have exactly the opposite effect in Maine. Colorado has reaped the benefit of the post-technology boom migration from the west coast to the mountain region. In fact Colorado has had average economic growth when compared to the other mountain region states who do not have TABOR. While it is true that state spending is down due to TABOR, Colorado voters renounced this when it suspended TABOR in 2004. The price of major cuts in essential government programs and services was simply too high. Colorado has also enjoyed a population growth—due to an increase of employment opportunities, state investment in marketing and a growth in recreational amenities.

For Maine to have any of these outcomes, we will need to invest in research and development, the education and healthcare of our workforce, inexpensive and efficient energy, a healthy environment and a reliable infrastructure. None of this is possible without stable state revenue.

Don't the taxpayers know how to spend their own money better than the state?

The taxpayers do have control of how tax dollars are spent. In a representative democracy, we elect officials to make decisions based on complete information about the complex budgetary process. If our representatives do not reflect our values then it is up to us to send them a message during the election.

TABOR is a citizen initiative for the people to put reins on government—why are you against a common sense solution to limiting government spending?

TABOR did not originate in Maine, it did not even originate in Colorado its pilot state. TABOR was dreamed up by the arch-conservatives in Washington who are part of a national campaign to paralyze government. Common sense dictates that we look to the experience of others before implementing such a policy here. It has been devastating in Colorado and it would be catastrophic here.

The Maine legislature passed LD One—what we refer to as the Community Prosperity Act—which is a spending cap and property tax assistance program. This is the first step in addressing the concerns of Maine people.

Haven't the problems in Colorado's TABOR been addressed in Maine's improved version?

Most importantly, Maine TABOR shares the most damaging aspects of the law. The problem comes with the way the spending cap is determined—based on a simple formula of population growth and the Consumer Price Index. This does not reflect the changes in demographics—population aging or needs for public schooling. It is also based on a false comparison in government and consumer spending. The CPI tracks basic household items. Instead of car payments or potato chips, government buys healthcare and construction goods. It buys the necessities for the common good, leaving individual needs and wants up to the individual household.

Don't the people have more direct say over how their tax dollars are spent?

The way the law is written—requiring a 2/3rd's approval and a majority public vote for any tax or fee increases, it gives new power to minorities. Further, it weakens democratic tradition in Maine. Our elected officials need to be agile in responding to crises like the Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, the Ice Storm in Maine and the national oil crises.

A Sample Editorial based on the December 3, 2005 Workshop
hosted by The Katahdin Institute

The Bulleted Themes May be Selected as the Situation Suggest ,

TABOR: The Next Threat to Maine's Future INTRODUCTION:

In the 2006 Election a spending cap initiative known as the "Taxpayer Bill of Rights" or TABOR is likely to appear on the Maine ballot subject to referendum. TABOR has been brought to Maine by anti-government activists as a part of a national strategy to cripple our democracy, shift power to special interests and eliminate programs and services essential to Mainers. Contrary to the arguments of its proponents, TABOR was developed in Washington, DC and tested in Colorado and is supported by conservative interests from away. It is just one component of a national strategy to shrink government to irrelevance. Large financial investments have put a version of this spending cap on the 2006 ballot in at least 10 states. This has been clearly marked by the visits from Grover Norquist who is one of its greatest champions, Colorado Governor Bill Owens, representatives from right-wing think tanks across the country and conservative members of the Colorado legislature.

When Maine people look at the facts, TABOR does not reflect historic Maine values of *Community, Fairness and Investing in the Future.*

COMMUNITY

Maine has a long history of caring for its communities. We have taken the lead in healthcare reform and access to prescription drugs, passing landmark legislation that serves as a model nationwide. When our elected officials in Washington fail us by cutting funding for families, for seniors, for education, for the environment and many of our other priorities we have come together as a state to ensure that these services continue. We recognize that without essential services like public education, healthcare, (_____ priority issue _____), Maine will not prosper. Time after time, we vote to ensure that that these services are provided efficiently and fairly.

TABOR is a danger to our communities because it threatens our ability to ensure vital services. It is designed to one end: to indiscriminately shrink government to the size that it is ineffective. We know that a blanket cut in public funding will force cuts in the programs that Mainers agree are so essential, particularly education, and healthcare. This is particularly important because the most recent budget proposed by the White House includes major federal cuts to these programs.

The TABOR funding formula requires citizens to pay out of pocket for services that were once a shared commitment. The government spending formula laid out in TABOR is the same formula that was applied with disastrous consequences in Colorado. Individuals were charged for services that were once a shared commitment of the community and a recognized investment. Voters were told that they would get refunds to cover their increased costs and it simply did not happen.

Across the board cuts will damage Maine's education priority and our vision for a sustainable economy. Mainers have invested consistently in education and we have one of the highest high school graduation rates in the nation. We recognize that a healthy economy requires an educated workforce, and despite federal budget cuts in money available for higher education, access to post high school degree programs in Maine has increased in recent years.

FAIRNESS

Mainers support fair taxation. We recognize that the tax system in Maine should reflect the needs of the people. Legislators developed the Circuit Breaker tax program and the Homestead Exemption for local residents to provide support for those whose property taxes surpassed their ability to pay.

Mainers support our democratic process. Maine led the nation in the passage of the Clean Elections Law, encouraging campaigns to be run free of large private contributions. This landmark legislation reflecting our vision of equal opportunity, shared responsibility, and accountability served as a model for Vermont, Massachusetts, Arizona, and California to follow. Other states are considering passage of similar legislation. The Clean Elections Law created a legislature that has worked to reflect the values of the state, unencumbered by the influence and corruption that dominates Washington politics. TABOR would weaken our ability to support Clean elections and resist the influence of special interests affecting pending legislation.

Mainers want fair and accountable government. We expect our elected officials will act in our best interests and the best interest of Maine. We demand fiscal responsibility while at the same time require adequately funded public programs that grow our economy and enrich our lives. If they don't, we vote them out of office. This is how our voices are heard; this is the nature of our democracy. The TABOR spending cap, is legislation that will remove this accountability and forever damage our democratic process.

Maine's tradition of fairness is clear in our social and economic policies. From the recent vote to ensure Maine's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender population, to the recent leadership in the Maine Prosperity Act (LD 1). They have clearly endorsed legislative efforts to ensure fairness in property taxation through the Homestead Exemption and the Circuit Breaker program.

Mainers believe in economic fairness and with our Clean Elections system, our legislators are free to work towards tax reform without the dominance of special interest. TABOR is not tax reform – it is a spending cap that may or may not result in lower taxes for the few at great expense to the many. It does nothing to change the tax code and makes no commitment to spread basic costs of society across those who benefit most. Tax reform is complex and there are many conflicting proposals on the table. We must elect and support representatives to work to find the best solutions to the problems facing Maine people.

Mainers support equal opportunity. Children in Maine should have equal access to a

good education and be given the equal opportunity to succeed. Under TABOR in Colorado, opportunity was limited to those whose parents had the resources to afford private schools, or in the public school system purchase new textbooks, new computers, athletic equipment and art supplies. Maine's future is too important. For our economy to thrive, we need to encourage the ingenuity, creativity and the intelligence of our youth for the future of our shared prosperity. This will not be possible if opportunities are limited to the wealthy few.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Maine has a long history of committing to investment in our environment and our infrastructure. Our voters consistently vote to invest in education, and research and development. We recognize that this is a shared commitment. We have all benefited from investments made before our time and we recognize that we have an obligation to those who come after us.

Maine has a history of investing in our children's education In the Spring of 2004, Maine voters voted to support Referendum One which required a full 55% state funding of schools. In the 2006 legislature, Governor Baldacci has championed a bill to require an increase in teacher salaries. Maine voters consistently support bonds that fund after school programming and infrastructure.

Maine has been a leader in the nation in our commitment to a sustainable and healthy environment. From the unprecedented Land Use and Acquisition bills, to maintaining a fund to protect against the damages of oil spills, to our investments in the North Woods and Katahdin Lake, Mainers recognize the value of a healthy environment as our legacy, as our responsibility and as essential to our lively hood.

We value fiscal responsibility and consistently invest in essential government services and programs such as first responders, fire and police, social workers, councilors, public health officials, tutors, and many others. Maine's constitution requires a balanced budget. Even with the unanticipated blows to our budget in unfunded mandates and natural disasters, Maine has maintained its commitments.

Maine's investment in K-12 education has paid off. Maine's high school graduation rate is among the highest in the nation.

Conclusion

In 2006, Maine will be faced with important decisions about the future of the state, our resources and our long term prosperity. TABOR will be an important part of this decision as its defeat will mark a continued commitment to Maine values of *Community, Fairness, and Investing in the Future*. It is up to Mainers to find a solution that is right for Maine. TABOR was originated out of state and was specifically designed to cripple local and state government with a spending formula that bars the exercise of good judgment under changing conditions. The test site, Colorado, has suffered irreparable damage due to its passage thirteen years ago. The damage was so great, that Governor Bill Owens—once its greatest proponent—campaigned against it. This is not a vision for Maine. The quality of life that Mainers so value – a strong educational system, a healthy environment, an engaged and healthy workforce and a reliable infrastructure – would be devastated.

Maine Women's Fund: Links and Resources

Maine Women's Fund

- [Skip to Content](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Get Involved](#)
- [About the Fund](#)
 - [Board of Directors/Staff](#)
 - [Contact Us](#)
- [Grantmaking](#)
 - [MWF Grantmaking Program](#)
 - [New Girls' Fund for Social Change](#)
 - [Past Grants](#)
- [Programs](#)
 - [New Girls' Network](#)
 - [Women Standing Together](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [What's New](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Mother's Day](#)
- [Links & Resources](#)



Links and Resources

Financial Security

Why Social Security Matters to Women

The Institute for Women's Policy Research has created a Web site to address the issue of women and social security. You can sign up to receive e-mail alerts and newsletters about the latest news and reports concerning women and social security.

The WAGE Project -- addressing the wage gap between women and men

Women in the United States only earn an average of 77 cents for every dollar men earn. Over a lifetime, this wage gap results in a loss of \$700,000 for a woman with a high school diploma and \$1.2 million for a college graduate. A professional school graduate loses \$2 million to the wage gap. Mad yet? In order to help women tackle this challenge, Evelyn Murphy, former Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor, launched The WAGE Project -- Women Are Getting Even. The Maine Women's Fund has joined the Maine YWCAs, Maine Women's Policy Center, Women, Work & Community, the Maine Department of Labor, and the University of Maine to bring The WAGE Project to Maine. Stay tuned to learn how you can get involved.

Maine Women's Fund opposing TABOR

You may have heard about the statewide Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR) referendum that will appear on the November ballot this fall. The Maine

<http://www.mainewomensfund.org/links/>

Maine Women's Fund: Links and Resources

Women's Fund opposes the measure, which seeks to cap government spending at a rate that is likely to compromise many programs serving women and girls. Our reading of the analysis from Colorado (and other states where TABOR is either on the ballot, in the legislative pipeline, or shortly destined for one of the two) is that the negatives far outweigh the positives. We know that tax reform is high on the list of priorities for Maine people, but the TABOR approach goes too far and does not solve the problem. What we need are leaders who will spend our tax dollars wisely while providing essential state and local services. How are we learning more about TABOR? To start, our "Women Standing Together" giving circle hosted a discussion with Colorado resident and small business owner Kristi Hargrove on June 16 that drew a capacity crowd to the offices of Lapchick Baron in Portland. As more TABOR-related events come up, we will try to put the word out so that you can get the information you need to make an informed choice at election time. FMI about the political action committee organized against the initiative, "Citizens United," see <http://www.NOTABOR.org/>. (In the interest of parity, if you would like to learn more about TABOR from the group initiating the referendum, visit <http://www.TaxpayerBillofRights.com/>.)

Women's Business Center of Coastal Enterprises, Inc.

The Women's Business center at CEI is committed to supporting women in Maine who either own or are interested in starting a business in Maine. Our services include free one-on-one counseling, low-cost workshops, and peer networking opportunities on such topics as Internet and websites, business management, and financing a business. All women who are at least 50% owners of a business in Maine are eligible to join the directory for a minimal fee and financial aid is available to those who qualify. A subscription to the directory provides benefits that include Internet marketing, notification of networking events, a 50% discount on workshops at the WBC and the Maine Small Business Development Center at CEI, and an exhibit space at our annual Maine Women Business Owners Expo.

National Perspectives on TABOR

If you would like to understand how TABOR efforts in other states are affecting public policy, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington, DC, has analyses available on its website.

DVD on TABOR's impact in Colorado available

The Maine Center for Economic Policy has a DVD available that explains the impact of TABOR in Colorado using the testimony of business leaders, parents, the philanthropic community, policy analysts, and elected officials.

MANP Town Hall Meetings on TABOR

If you are active in the nonprofit arena—as a staff member, board member, volunteer, and/or donor—you can learn more about how TABOR will impact the sector through the Maine Association of Nonprofits. MANP has been hosting a series of town hall meetings this summer across the state called the "Nonprofit Voice Project." These dynamic 4-hour trainings include lunch and are only \$10 for MANP members and \$15 for non-members.

Maine Women's Fund: Links and Resources

Community Leadership Training for People Opposed to TABOR

If you are opposed to TABOR and would like to learn more about how to talk about it, the Katahdin Institute is offering community leadership training over the next few months in several locations.

Working Women in Maine. Initial Indicators for Progress, 2006.

In August 2006, the Women's Employment Issues Committee of the Maine Job Council issued a report entitled "Working Women in Maine. Initial Indicators for Progress, 2006." The Committee is tracking progress in attaining economic security for women in Maine through annual evaluations in eight areas. The indicators for these spotlights include information on women's wages, unemployment, part-time versus full-time employment, new hire earnings, earnings and participation by occupation, education, poverty rate and women's health insurance coverage.

Girls

Understanding Gender Differences: Strategies to Support Girls and Boys

This article was published in Family Issues: Current Research on Family Topics for Maine Educators produced by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Topics covered include "What Can We Do to Support Girls?", "Messages Girls Need to Hear", and "The Girls' Bill of Rights".

Health

True North, A Center for Health and Healing Offers Resources

True North, a Center for Health and Healing offers a unique integrative health practice located in Falmouth, Maine. They combine the best of conventional medicine with the finest complementary health care practices. Visit their resources page for a variety of holistic health information and resources.

Philanthropy

Inspired Philanthropy

This book will help you learn about giving plans and help you create your own that will reflect your values. Whether you are new to philanthropy or redefining your philanthropic goals, this book is an excellent resource.

Women's Funding Network

This umbrella organization represents more than 100 women's funds from around the world. The Maine Women's Fund is a member of the Women's Funding Network.

Maine Philanthropy Center

The Maine Philanthropy Center is an organization that promotes philanthropy in Maine, and is also a resource for grantmaking organizations.

Maine Women's Fund: Links and Resources

Women & Philanthropy

This national organization is a great resource for the latest news on women and philanthropy.

Prospective Funders

The Foundation Center

A good resource for both grantmaking organizations and individual grantmakers; they provide resources and educational workshops about the grantmaking process.

Haymarket People's Fund

A New England based grantmaking organization that gives grants to organizations committed to social change.

Maine Initiatives

A Maine based grantmaking organization that emphasizes giving to organizations working on economic, social, and environmental justice issues.

Maine Community Foundation

MCF is a community fund that gives grants to organizations in Maine. Their Web site also has information about planned giving and resources for professional advisors working with donors and charitable organizations.

Public Policy

Maine Women's Fund opposing TABOR

You may have heard about the statewide Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR) referendum that will appear on the November ballot this fall. The Maine Women's Fund opposes the measure, which seeks to cap government spending at a rate that is likely to compromise many programs serving women and girls. Our reading of the analysis from Colorado (and other states where TABOR is either on the ballot, in the legislative pipeline, or shortly destined for one of the two) is that the negatives far outweigh the positives. We know that tax reform is high on the list of priorities for Maine people, but the TABOR approach goes too far and does not solve the problem. What we need are leaders who will spend our tax dollars wisely while providing essential state and local services. How are we learning more about TABOR? To start, our "Women Standing Together" giving circle hosted a discussion with Colorado resident and small business owner Kristi Hargrove on June 16 that drew a capacity crowd to the offices of Lapchick Baron in Portland. As more TABOR-related events come up, we will try to put the word out so that you can get the information you need to make an informed choice at election time. FMI about the political action committee organized against the initiative, "Citizens United," see <http://www.NOTABOR.org/>. (In the interest of parity, if you would like to learn more about TABOR from the group initiating the referendum, visit <http://www.TaxpayerBillOfRights.com/>.)

<http://www.mainewomensfund.org/links/>

Maine Women's Fund: Links and Resources

National Perspectives on TABOR

If you would like to understand how TABOR efforts in other states are affecting public policy, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington, DC, has analyses available on its website.

DVD on TABOR's impact in Colorado available

The Maine Center for Economic Policy has a DVD available that explains the impact of TABOR in Colorado using the testimony of business leaders, parents, the philanthropic community, policy analysts, and elected officials.

MANP Town Hall Meetings on TABOR

If you are active in the nonprofit arena—as a staff member, board member, volunteer, and/or donor—you can learn more about how TABOR will impact the sector through the Maine Association of Nonprofits. MANP has been hosting a series of town hall meetings this summer across the state called the “Nonprofit Voice Project.” These dynamic 4-hour trainings include lunch and are only \$10 for MANP members and \$15 for non-members.

Community Leadership Training for People Opposed to TABOR

If you are opposed to TABOR and would like to learn more about how to talk about it, the Katahdin Institute is offering community leadership training over the next few months in several locations.

Self-Esteem

Women's eNews

An excellent source of articles and news pertaining to issues in American politics and society that directly affect women and girls. Subscribe for free and receive informative news summaries and links to articles about women in the news.

Savvy Miss

A website dedicated to connecting, empowering, and informing savvy women everywhere. Includes articles, interviews, message boards, and expert Q & A on a variety of subjects ranging from career, college, books, dating, volunteer information, and important societal issues

Social Change

Women's Funding Network

This umbrella organization represents more than 100 women's funds from around the world. The Maine Women's Fund is a member of the Women's Funding Network.

National Network of Grantmakers

Maine Women's Fund: Links and Resources

NNG focuses on philanthropy and grassroots social change and is a resource for both foundations and individuals interested in grantmaking.

Neighborhood Funders Group

NFG is a network of foundations that are committed to supporting change in the economic and social conditions of low-income areas.

National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy

NCRP provides resources for nonprofit organizations and works on the issues of philanthropic accountability, nonprofit advocacy, and social justice philanthropy.

Strategic Grantee Partners

Maine Women's Policy Center

The Maine Women's Policy Center was founded in 1990 to improve the economic, social, and political status of women and girls in Maine through public policy and leadership development. The MWPC achieves its mission by focusing on four priority areas: economic security, civil rights, freedom from violence, and secure health care and reproductive rights.

Women, Work, and Community

Women, Work, and Community is committed to improving the economic lives of Maine women and their families. WCC works with women "where they are" and provides them with support, guidance, and the tools they need to take the next steps toward a more promising future. WCC provides training, advocacy and assistance in four program areas: workforce development, microenterprise development, asset development, and leadership development.

Maine Equal Justice

Maine Equal Justice works in the legislature, before administrative agencies, and in the courts providing legal and policy analysis, to give low-income Maine people an effective voice on issues they care about.

[Home](#) | [About the Fund](#) | [Donate Now](#) | [Grant Making](#) | [Programs](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Events](#) | [Links & Resources](#) | [Site Map](#)
©2005 Maine Women's Fund | 565 Congress St., Ste 306 | P.O. Box 5135 | Portland, ME 04101
Tel: (207) 774-5513 | Fax: (207) 774-5533 | [Email Us](#)

Wayne, Jonathan

From: Roy Lenardson [roy@strategicadvocacy.com]
Sent: Monday, January 08, 2007 7:52 AM
To: Wayne, Jonathan; Lavin, Paul
Subject: Complaint
Attachments: Press Release.pdf; emails.pdf; Hurrican Tabor Website.pdf; newspaper adPPH.pdf; postcard.pdf

Dear Jonathan:

I would like to formally request that the staff review whether or not Democracy Maine incorrectly filed as a 1056-B when their activities are more accurately reflected as a Political Action Committee. In addition to the Democracy Maine inquiry, I am concerned that the AARP, while certainly a large organization with many responsibilities beyond anti-Tabor activities, fails to meet the 1056-B test. I am not familiar with an organization spending 300,000 dollars in a single campaign, and deciding it is not a PAC.

It makes sense to me that a quick review of all the 1056-B filers is in order. I am specifically requesting the AARP review, although there may be others that should also be included.

I am attaching several documents which I believe represent a "major" portion of the activities of the Democracy Maine during the referendum campaign.

Including:

1. Email solicitations (I have included 3) asking for money for the defeat of TABOR
2. A press release announcing that "Democracy Maine Begins Campaign to Expose TABOR as a Fraud"
3. A copy of one of the Newspaper Ads (Full page) that ran in papers throughout Maine urging a NO vote on Question 1
4. A copy of one of the mailings that was sent from Democracy Maine urging the defeat of TABOR
5. A screen shot of their campaign website www.stophurricanetabor.com, which also links to their other website, www.democracymaine.com and includes a link for a radio Ad.
6. A copy of their 1056-B report which shows just over \$1000 dollars in contributions and more than \$42,000 in expenditures July 24th through October 23, a 3 month period. I do not have the latest copy.

Finally, I would like to state that I am adamantly opposed to the requirement created in the context of the 1056-B reports that an organization file where and when they have spoken on an issue. This new requirement that groups register their speaking activities with the government is dangerous.

However, I believe the Maine Heritage Policy Center, which is now required to register with the government, is being unfairly singled out. The following organizations did not file a 1056-B report yet expended resources and spoke in opposition to TABOR:

1. The City of Portland
2. The Kathadin Institute
3. The University of Maine System
4. The Catholic Church
5. The Maine State Chamber

This is by no means a complete list, but before I file an additional complaint, could you please provide me with guidance on the standards being used that will trigger the reporting requirement? Information on how many speeches have to be given or the number of meetings held, the number of mentions in the paper, radio and TV. If there are specific content issues that one would need to consider, that be helpful to know as well. My goal here is to understand exactly when the 1056-B report would be triggered.

I look forward to working with you in this issue.

Roy Lenardson
Strategic Advocacy, LLC

1/16/2007

Wayne, Jonathan

From: Roy Lenardson [roy@strategicadvocacy.com]
Sent: Monday, January 08, 2007 6:22 PM
To: Lavin, Paul; Wayne, Jonathan
Subject: kathadin piece.pdf
Attachments: kathadin piece.pdf

I thought this might be helpful. It is typical of the materials distributed by the Kathadin Institute.

Roy

Wayne, Jonathan

From: Roy Lenardson [roy@strategicadvocacy.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 6:11 PM
To: Wayne, Jonathan
Subject: Kathadin Institute

[http://209.85.165.104/search?
q=cache:POdrpcjCus8J:www.maine womensfund.org/links/+katahdin+grants+tabor&hl=en&gl=us&ct=clnk&cd=1](http://209.85.165.104/search?q=cache:POdrpcjCus8J:www.maine womensfund.org/links/+katahdin+grants+tabor&hl=en&gl=us&ct=clnk&cd=1)

Community Leadership Training for People Opposed to TABOR

If you are opposed to **TABOR** and would like to learn more about how to talk about it, the **Katahdin** Institute is offering community leadership training over the next few months in several locations

Wayne, Jonathan

From: Roy Lenardson [roy@strategicadvocacy.com]
Sent: Monday, January 08, 2007 6:48 PM
To: Lavin, Paul; Wayne, Jonathan
Subject: More on Kathadin

The link below will take you to the Tides Foundation, which gave the Kathadin Institute 10,000 dollars to help teach groups how to defeat TABOR. I think the previous piece I sent you—the handbook from Kathadin was a part of this “grant”.

The relevant part is in yellow.

Best,

Roy

<http://www.tidesfoundation.org/index.php?id=180&print=1>

Supporting Key Ballot Initiatives

Ballot initiatives motivate voters and help to make voting directly relevant and meaningful. In 2006 minimum wage initiatives will be decided in nine states, but many of those states will also be seeing TABOR (taxpayer bill of rights) initiatives, and/or other regressive initiatives (anti-gay marriage, limitations on abortion rights and restrictions on services to immigrants). Tides grantees are progressive coalitions organizing around these ballot initiatives in four states:

Name	Organization Description	Grant
The Colorado Progressive Coalition (CPC)	CPC is a statewide, multi-issue, and multiracial coalition of 5,000 community members and 41 civil rights, labor, faith, immigrant, and community organizations representing 250,000 members. In 2006 CPC is leading opposition to major anti-immigrant, anti-marriage equality, and anti-reproductive justice initiatives on its November ballot while, at the same time, promoting a minimum wage initiative and supporting mobilization in support of immigrant rights. Pro-Vote's 40 members include labor, church, environmental, and civil rights groups, which together promote progressive policies, conduct grassroots organizing and run a state-of-the-art voter registration and mobilization program. This year, Pro-Vote, has placed a state minimum wage hike (from \$5.15 to \$6.50) on the November ballot, which, according to April polls, is supported by nearly 80% of likely voters. Pro-Vote's mobilization efforts will target new and infrequent African American voters and their campaign has the potential both to give working Missourians a raise and to build the long-term power of progressives in this influential state. This coalition is mobilizing diverse constituents around the shared commitment to raising the minimum wage to \$6.75 per hour. Arizona's 2006 ballot includes both progressive issues and a "Protect Marriage Initiative" that would also ban domestic partner benefits. The Minimum Wage initiative has enormous potential to bring out the vote: Arizona currently has the lowest minimum wage on the West Coast and recent polling found 81% voters in favor of the increase. The Coalition has the potential not only of a victory for low-income working families but also to build alliances for future progressive activism in this key electoral state.	\$25,000
Missouri Progressive Vote Coalition (Pro-Vote)		\$25,000
The Arizona Minimum Wage Coalition		\$25,000
Community Leadership Network	This network is working with Community Voices Against TABOR, an 80 member coalition created to educate constituents about, and to oppose, the Taxpayers Bill of Rights (TABOR) on the ballot for November 2006. Rather than solely focusing on a rearguard action to defeat TABOR, the Community Leadership Network is working with community leaders	\$10,000

1/15/2007

with the Katahdin to provide them the tools, and training to analyze the political influences in the state, and develop a new language to
Institute - Maine talk about the impact of spending caps, the role of government and equitable means to pay for essential services.
© 1998-2006 Tides, All rights reserved. Questions or comments: webweaver@tides.org

Roy Lenardson

Strategic Advocacy, LLC
605 US Route One, Suite B
Scarborough, Maine 04074
207.329.0992 (c)
207.510.7631 (o)
207.221.1041(f)
roy@strategicadvocacy.com